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Kroger Supports Initiative Engaging Citizens to Improve Health Care

Washington, DC, -- January 19, 2006 – The Citizens' Health Care Working Group is pleased to announce that The Kroger Co. will encourage Company associates and customers around the country to participate in community meetings and online surveys sponsored by the Citizens' Health Care Working Group aimed at improving health care in America. Headquartered in Cincinnati, Ohio, Kroger is one of the nation's largest retail grocery chains.

"The Kroger Co.'s participation enhances our ability to let people across the country know that they have an opportunity to be a part of improving the nation's health care," stated Randall L. Johnson, chair of the Citizens' Health Care Working Group and Director, Human Resources Strategic Initiatives, Motorola. "We welcome the involvement of The Kroger Co. on this issue and invite others to join us."

The Citizens' Health Care Working Group, a nonpartisan group authorized by the Medicare Prescription Drug, Improvement and Modernization Act of 2003, is charged with listening to the views of the American people and developing recommendations for the President and Congress to provide U.S. citizens with "Health Care that Works for All Americans." The *Health Report to the American People* was released in October and serves as a basis to engage the American people in a dialogue on health care access, cost and quality issues. The Working Group consists of 15 members --14 citizens of diverse backgrounds from across the country, and the Secretary of Health and Human Services. To view The *Health Report to the American People* or get more information on the Citizens' Health Care Working Group and the upcoming community meetings, visit www.citizenshealthcare.gov.

Editor's note: The Citizens' Health Care Working Group is an independent body whose members were selected by the Comptroller General of the United States. The Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality provides administrative support as directed by the Medicare Modernization Act.

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